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announced

INSIDE

Mitch Morrow
leads team in
tournament

INSIDE

Sarah Bene
scores in Opp
tournament

The Elba Clipper

Volume 110, Number 4

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 6, 2006

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Benefitting the Elba Playground Project

Several donations made during "Picnic for the Park"

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Elba Community Playground committee sponsored "Picnic for the Park" Thursday evening, June 29, at the Elba High School cafeteria and found it not only to be a good fund raising event but also to be a good tool for distributing information regarding the proj-

ect. Laurie Chapman, general coordinator for the project, thanked those in attendance for their support of the playground project. She said the support certainly has not gone unnoticed, and the playground will be a great asset for the children in Elba and surrounding communities for many, many years

to come.

The overall fund raising goal for the playground project is \$150,000, and Nell Gilmer, treasurer for the playground committee, reported during "Picnic for the Park" that more than \$66,000 already has been donated and/or pledged.

The picnic was an 'all proceeds benefiting' event as food items were donated by several local businesses. The evening's meal included grilled hamburgers and hot dogs with all the trimmings, baked beans, chips and cole slaw. A variety of desserts were prepared by ladies from the Elba Church of Christ. Several monetary donations also were presented during the event, including some already pledged funds.

Among the donations was a presentation from the Jack R. Brunson family. Edna Brunson and her son, Jack E. Brunson, presented \$10,000 on behalf of the late Mr. Jack R. Brunson. This generous donation now recognizes the Jack R. Brunson family as a title sponsor for the Elba Community Playground project. Other title sponsors include the Kiwanis Club of Elba, National Security Group and Kelley Foods.

At the end of the evening, the money from ticket sales and donations was tallied, and it revealed \$17,463 was raised during "Picnic for the Park."

"The building of this playground reminds us (children of the community) how important we are to you," said Hayes Spicer as he made a donation on behalf of the Elba Elementary School SGA.

During the previous school term, the SGA at Elba Elementary School sponsored a "Buy a Board" contest. This contest included students not only at Elba Elementary but also students from Kinston, New Brockton and Zion Chapel.

The contest asked students to contribute money to purchase a board (or several boards) to be used to build the playground. The classes and students competed to bring in the highest percentage of money so they could become the first to play on the new playground once building is complete.

Spicer presented the \$642 raised by area students from the "Buy a Board" contest to Chapman during the picnic last



LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SUPPORT THE PROJECT...Those attending last Thursday evening's "Picnic for the Park" in Elba found it easy to find ways to support the project's fund raising efforts as several options were presented. Despite being a fund raiser itself, the event also was a great opportunity for those in attendance to get a better understanding of the entire project and various ways one can help. Above, Miss Elba Lauren McClung (right) and Junior Miss Elba Meagan Anderson (left) look over the different fund raising options. Also shown is Judson Vaughan (far left).

Please See PICNIC, Page 3

Chip Westbrook enjoys restoring Farmall tractors

by Linda Hodge, Editor

When one thinks of tractors, work also comes to mind. While Coffee County resident Chip Westbrook thinks of tractors, he smiles and thinks of the fun he gets from his work.

Westbrook has been collecting and restoring old Farmall tractors for about two years, and he said he really enjoys the work.

"The first tractor on this farm (Westbrook Family Farm) was a Farmall," he said. "A 'B' Farmall was the first I drove. We then got a 'C' Farmall and have been in the Farmall business ever since."

Farmall tractors, known for their red color, became an American icon in the early 1900s. The history of Farmall began with the McCormick-Deering merger in 1902 which led to the creation of the International Harvester Corporation and the debut of the Farmall in the 1920s.

Eventually, Farmall sold out to Case International, but in 2004, Case reintroduced the Farmall name with a new product line. Today, it is not uncommon to still see some of those old Farmall tractors working the fields.

"I started out just wanting one tractor," Westbrook said in regards to his collection. "But, there's just something about it."

Now, he is almost near completing his desired set. Westbrook currently has the Farmall Cub, Farmall A,



Chip Westbrook is shown sitting on the Farmall 'Model H' tractor he purchased and restored. This 1946 tractor was originally purchased by Fountain Lee, and Westbrook bought it from Lee's son, John Glen. The tractor now is part of a collection that Westbrook began a couple of years ago.

Farmall C, Farmall H and Farmall M. He said he is looking for a Farmall B to purchase, and his set will then be complete. However, that does not mean his work will be complete.

The H is a 1946 model, and

The first tractor Westbrook purchased for his collection was the Farmall H. He bought it from another Coffee County resident, John Glen Lee.

The H is a 1946 model, and

Please See FARMALL, Page 11

County BOE members approve several personnel matters during special meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education met Wednesday morning, June 28, for a special meeting and discussed several matters.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram presented board members with a draft salary schedule for members to review. After the members have a chance to review the draft schedule, Ingram said they will be able to vote on it at the next board meeting.

Ingram noted the state approved a five percent pay raise for educators which required the school system to adjust its salary schedule to accommodate the requirement.

Board members also looked at and approved a proposal from Ingram to lengthen the number of work days for some employees including secretaries, janitors, CNP workers, principal and counselors.

Ingram said the legislature approved five additional school day for students requiring the school year to include 180 instructional days rather than 175 instructional days. This led her to recommend the additional work days for the above mentioned employees.

Dr. Ingram also told board members during the meeting that a good Parent Advisory Committee meeting had recently been held. She said approximately 20 parents with representatives from each school attended the meeting.

A couple of items Ingram said the group discussed were dress code and cellular phones.

During last Wednesday's meeting, Ingram told board members there are some things she would like the board to try and address regarding the dress code for students.

Dr. Ingram presented several recommendations in regards to personnel matters. Board members in attendance (board member Scotty Hunko was not present) unanimously voted to accept the superintendent's recommendations.

Personnel matters approved included:

Certificated

• Accept the resignation of Bobbie Barnes, Spanish teacher/librarian at Kinston School.

• Accept the resignation of Amanda Corbett, band director at Zion Chapel School.

• Accept the resignation of Heather Templin, special education teacher at New Brockton Elementary School.

• Accept the voluntary transfer of Judy Moody from her position as sixth grade self-contained teacher at Kinston School to that of fifth grade self-contained teacher at Kinston School.

• Accept the voluntary transfer of Doug Branson from his position as elementary physical education teacher/seventh and eighth grade physical education teacher at New Brockton Schools to elementary physical education/high school physical education/health teacher at New Brockton School.

• Transfer Kristin Stinson from her position as special education teacher to Kinston School.

Please See BOE, Page 3

Due to the ongoing drought 48 Alabama counties designated as primary natural disaster areas

Governor Bob Riley and Commissioner Ron Sparks of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries on Friday, June 30, expressed appreciation to U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns for designating 48 Alabama counties as primary natural disaster areas due to the ongoing drought.

Riley and Sparks traveled to Washington, DC last week and requested the disaster declaration.

"High temperatures and lack of rain are taking a real toll on our farmers. There's been a little rain lately, but drought conditions continue in many parts of the state. This step will provide some real help for our farmers," Governor Riley and Commissioner Sparks said in a joint statement. "We greatly appreciate Secretary Johanns and our congressional delegation for working with us on this important effort."

A total of 48 Alabama counties were designated primary disaster areas due to losses caused by drought and high temperatures that occurred from Jan. 1, 2006, and continuing.

The counties include: Baldwin, Barbour, Bibb, Bullock, Butler, Chambers, Cherokee, Choctaw, Clarke,

Clay, Coffee, Colbert, Conecuh, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Cullman, Dale, Elmore, Escambia, Etowah, Franklin, Geneva, Greene, Hale, Henry, Houston, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lee, Macon, Madison, Marengo, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Perry, Pike, Randolph, Russell, St. Clair, Sumter, Tallapoosa, Tuscaloosa, Washington and Wilcox.

The following Alabama counties are also eligible because they are contiguous: Autauga, Blount, Calhoun, Chilton, Cleburne, Dallas, DeKalb, Fayette, Jefferson, Limestone, Lowndes, Marion, Marshall, Pickens and Shelby.

This designation makes farmers in both primary and contiguous counties eligible for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. FSA will consider each loan application

Please See DISASTER, Page 5

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

This is being written a bit early as our staff will take off Tuesday, July 4th, in honor of America's founding fathers and this great country they founded all those years ago. Many things continue to amaze us. Briefly we mention the durability and still timely wording of the Holy Bible, the Declaration of Independence and the U. S. Constitution. Sure, there is debate on the contents, meaning and/or wisdom of each of these documents. Hopefully there will still be the freedom, as we know it, for those open discussions for the rest of time. Our personal belief in the words, the meanings and the products of those documents creates dreams of each of them enduring the ravages of time and guiding humanity forever and forever.

Former Governor Don Siegelman, former hospital CEO Richard Scrushy, former Siegelman Chief of Staff Paul Hamrick and former Highway Director Mack Roberts, all got a verdict from the federal jury in Montgomery last Thursday. Both Hamrick and Roberts got "Not Guilty" decisions while Siegelman and Scrushy were convicted on some very serious charges. Only time will tell if their announced appeals are successful and if either of them actually spends time in a federal pen but it doesn't look good - not at all.

How little we did know!!! If (no... when) you hear or read where this wiseguy is again acting as if he has the answer to all the world's problems, just remind us of our predictions on the outcome of this trial. It was no secret that our predictions were that if anyone was convicted it would include Hamrick, the man accused, among other things, of accepting \$25,000 cash to lease a fancy personal car from a lobbyist. Then as was written here weeks ago, all Scrushy did was American "politics at its best". He donated to the cause and he was appointed to a state hospital board, appointed at a time when he was flying high and considered "the man" in hospital management. It has happened a gillion times for generations and all across America. Abe Lincoln was probably the last elected official to appoint his opponents to government positions (before the Civil War) when he named those guys trying to beat him for the office of president as top cabinet officials. Then of course we were hoping, hoping, hoping that our friend Don Siegelman would also be found not guilty, though there were more charges against him than against any of the others.

House ok's expansion of oil and gas exploration

FROM THE HOUSE by
Congressman Terry Everett
(202) 225-2901

Experts say that if we do nothing the upward trend in oil and gas prices will not go away. Unlike in the past, the global demand for energy has never been greater, nor is there expected to be any decrease in demand. America now depends on other countries for more than 60 percent of its energy needs. Last week, the U.S. House took a major step aimed at turning this around by seeking to open up more oil and gas supplies here at home.

As amazing as it sounds, the United States is the only developed nation in the world that restricts access to its off-shore energy resources. They are largely walled off from our use. In the past such a restrictive policy did not have as great a negative impact as it does today. But, we no longer have that luxury as third-world dictators and forces beyond our control threaten to restrict our access to an ever

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tightening supply of foreign oil. For nearly 30 years, America has prohibited the exploration and development of oil and gas off our shores along the continental shelf. It is estimated that as much as 85 percent of this U.S. "deep ocean" area is currently off-limits to energy production. These areas are believed to contain 420 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and 86 billion barrels of oil. To put that into perspective, the U.S. uses 23 trillion cubic feet of natural gas a year and we import 4.5 billion barrels of oil annually.

America's tightening energy supply is not just affecting drivers, the pain reverberates throughout the economy in higher prices for just about everything, not to mention a considerable loss of jobs. Our addition to foreign oil imports now makes up one third of America's growing trade deficit. As a result, America sends more than \$300 billion and many jobs overseas every year. In one area in particular - natural gas - the nation has seen the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs as industries have to move off shore to access affordable energy. The limited supply and skyrocketing cost of natural gas has a direct impact on Alabama industry as well as home heating expenses. Already being punished by high fuel costs for their equipment, Alabama farmers are also negatively affected by

the high cost of fertilizer which is made using natural gas. With a ready supply of oil and gas lying within our reach, it makes no sense to continue Federal off-shore energy development bans. Last week, the U.S. House passed by a 232 to 187 vote the Deep Ocean Energy Resources Act (H.R. 4761). The legislation, which was unanimously supported by Alabama's congressional delegation in the House, would provide for environmentally-sound deep sea energy exploration. It is a balanced approach that addresses states' rights about environmental concerns, while opening up new oil and gas reserves to our economy. The

legislation gives states permanent authority to prohibit energy production within 100 miles of their coastline, while allowing the Federal government to open up energy exploration between 100 and 200 miles off the coast. In addition to the obvious benefits of an increased supply of energy at home, the ability to tap into greater reserves of natural gas will ironically make it easier for farmers to produce ethanol and other environmentally friendly fuel alternatives which depend on fertilizer. Opening up our energy reserves will also add hundreds of thousands of new American jobs. I call upon the U.S. Senate to pass this badly-needed bill.



Terry Everett



The Children and Youth from Covenant Community Church presented a check in the amount of \$2,500 during "Picnic for the Park" last Thursday evening, June 29, at the Elba High School cafeteria. The donation was made with intent to purchase the tree fort on the equipment list for the playground. The children and youth representing Covenant Community Church at the event included (left to right): Shelby Brunson, Ward Brunson, Jamey Greek, John Gray, Sydney Brunson and Clark Logan.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The Sunrise Rotary Club and the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity Board would like to thank the many individuals who supported our major fundraiser. Because of the generous donations of so many businesses and individuals we were able to raise \$25,000.

The Sunrise Rotary Club is sponsoring the fourth Habitat Home to be built in Coffee County. A very deserving family has been selected and construction is scheduled to begin very soon.

Sincerely,
Joel Ellis, Sunrise Rotary President

Charlene Goolsby, Habitat Board Chairman

An Open Letter to Brittany McComb or What Happens in Vegas Does NOT Stay in Vegas:

Dear Brittany,

Like the rest of America, I know you as the courageous Foothill High School valedictorian with the 4.7 GPA, whose commencement speech mentioning God was cut short when school officials turned off your microphone.

You don't know I am an Orthodox Jewish rabbi, author, and radio talk show host. I live in Seattle and head an organization called Toward Tradition which defends the Jewish-Christian values that I consider vital for our nation's survival.

We applaud people like you who stand up for Jewish-Christian values, and we denounce people like Allen Lichtenstein, general counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union of Nevada. Along with

his organization, he tries to strip out Judeo-Christian values from America, presumably because he considers them to be primitive obstacles to progress.

Mr. Lichtenstein encouraged the school officials to censor you because your speech "promoted religion". It is really weird. My Jewish ancestors stood at the foot of Mount Sinai three thousand years ago doing exactly what you are accused of doing - promoting religion. It used to be considered a good thing for Jews to do. Nowadays we must mostly count on fervent Christians like you to promote religion. May God bless you.

You should be proud to have been viewed as such a menace that primitive censoring tactics were resorted to by educational bureaucrats. You should also be proud that you conducted your speech with such dignity that hundreds of your fellow graduates and their families jeered long and loud at the petty tyranny of the school officials.

The last time my microphone went dead, it was not deliberate. It was just a technical hitch, but it was pretty unpleasant. Last February 1 was speaking to a packed Altet Arena in downtown Little Rock, with Arkansas Governor, Mike Huckabee. The microphone was out only for a few moments but it was most disconcerting. I can only imagine what you felt when your microphone had that happened to you.

One can only imagine how enthusiastically the educators would have praised your speech had you instead preached in favor of some of the activities that Las Vegas routinely advertises for the purpose of attracting

the dissolute to the degradation. It would have been fine for you to have promoted almost anything in your speech other than religion.

A canyon cuts through our culture. It does not separate blacks from whites; neither does it separate rich from poor or men from women. It certainly does not separate Jews from Christians. It does, however, separate those who view Judeo-Christian values as tribal vestiges that obstruct our march to Utopia from those of us who see those Judeo-Christian values as vital for America's survival. There are blacks and whites on both sides just as there are rich and poor on both sides. Of course there are Jews on both sides, too. I am so pleased to see you are on my side. With the many young Americans, both Jewish and Christian, who are deeply devoted to God's Biblical blueprint for society, Mr. Lichtenstein and the ACLU don't stand a chance of forcing

Good luck at Biola University next year and always remember why they turned off your microphone. Sincerely,

Rabbi Daniel Lapin

DISASTER

(Continued from Page One)

on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and replacement ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the emergency loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity. Interested farmers may contact their local USDA Service Centers for further information on eligibility requirements and application procedures for these and other programs. Additional information is also available online at: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov>.

In addition, six Alabama counties have been approved for emergency grazing of federal Conservation Reserve Program land because of the drought. The federal program normally pays farmers to idle land in order to preserve wildlife habitat and cropland.

The six counties are Bullock, Covington, Elmore, Geneva, Montgomery and Pike. The announcement means that farmers in those six counties who are under contract with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to maintain the land can use it for grazing and allow others to use it for grazing if they choose.

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LIFESTYLES

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Lewis to be honored on Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary



Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Lewis

A reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd W. Lewis to celebrate their fiftieth wedding anniversary will be held at Gatherings, 105 N. Lee Street, New Brockton on Sunday, July 16, 2006, from 2:00 until 4:00 PM. The celebration will be hosted by their children Cindy (Steve) Mills, Caitlin and Cody Lewis, and Michael (Shannon) Gibbons.

The couple married July 7, 1956 in Ozark, Ala. Mrs. Lewis is the former Betty Coleman. They have four grandchildren: Amanda Mills, Caitlin and Cody Lewis, and Michael (Shannon) Gibbons.

All friends and relatives are invited to come and share in their celebration. No gifts please.

New Arrival



MONTANA ELISABETH CARNLEY

Ashley Flowers and Jackie Carnley announce the birth of their daughter, Montana Elisabeth Carnley. She was born June 9, 2006 at Medical Center Enterprise and weighed 9 lbs. 9 oz.



Sarah Cox

Sarah Kimberly Cox celebrated her sixth birthday (June 16) with a party Saturday afternoon, June 17, in Opelika, Ala. Several family members and friends were present to help the birthday girl celebrate her big day.

Sarah is the daughter of Christopher and Penny Cox of Opelika. Her grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Ferrin Cox of Elba, Linda Tice Randolph of Anniston, Ala., and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Randolph of North Huntingdon, Pa.

He is the son of Terry Hudson of County Road 151, New Brockton, Ala.



William Grantham Chandler

William Grantham Chandler celebrated his second birthday on June 17, 2006, with a Thomas the Train party at his home. Many big and little friends dropped by to help Grant celebrate.

Grant is the son of Billy and Lana (Spirin) Chandler of Mt. Olive, Ala. He is the grandson of Bill and Muffie Chandler of Birmingham, Ala., and Janette Grantham Carr of Elba, Ala.

"The Snellgroves" to be at Mustard Seed Foundation this Sunday

Mustard Seed Fellowship Church will have regular church services Sunday, July 9th. Morning worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. with "The Snellgroves" ministering in song and Derek Snellgrove bringing the morning message. Sunday evening services will begin at 6:00 p.m. Mustard Seed Fellowship Church is located on Coffee County road 211 in the Victoria Community. For more information, directions or transportation call (334) 897-0585 or (334) 672-1301.

Sun Photo and story by Velma Southernland
Living Editor of The Greenville (TENN) Sun

Mrs. Gwen Marsh attends High School Reunion recently

Members of the 1936 graduating class of Greenville High School (TENN) met Saturday, June 24th at the General Morgan Inn in Greenville for a reunion in celebration of the 70th anniversary of their graduation. Of the 18 remaining of the 70 enrolled in the senior class, eight were able to attend. Shown, from left, seated, are Mary Florence Luster Young of Warrensville, S.C., Marjorie Mullen Leming Strong, Elizabeth "Brit" Britton Reaves, Charlotte Gass Thomas, Gwen Mathes Marsh of Elba, Ala., and Louise Robinson Orr; and, standing, James "Pete" Lineberger and Leonard Coffman.

It was decided that Elizabeth Reaves has the most descendants after some inquiry into those of Gwen Mathes Marsh who was being quiet, because "everybody else was talking, and you know how shy I am."

Marsh was accompanied to Saturday's reunion by her brother, W.T. Mathes of Johnson City. He was a couple of years behind her in school.

"It was a whole different world," Reaves said about those years.

There wasn't much to do unless the young people used their imaginations. Gwen Mathes Marsh, now of Elba, Ala., leaned across the table to ask Charlotte Thomas if there hadn't been a boxcar in her backyard they'd played in as children.

"It was a circus wagon," Thomas said, adding that the wagon had been left in a Bernard Warehouse "when the (visiting) circus went broke."

Their childhoods were spent in what Thomas called the "best time in the world and best place in the world."

While their memories are of the good times, the 1930s were the dark years of the Great Depression, and finances were difficult.

The class did not have an annual senior year because the school board thought it would put too much strain on their parents.

Then as now, slumber parties at the homes of close friends were a regular part of life. The girls sometimes left the host home and walked a couple or three blocks to Gus's Cafe on Main Street, just a couple of buildings past Lancaster's toward the post office. Then after enjoying late-night ice-cream, they would trek over to the Depot to watch the train, then return to whichever house they were at for the evening.

"It was safe to walk anywhere any time you wanted," Reaves recalled.

At least one secret trip to Forest Park pool was made for late-night skinny dipping. (The source for this tidbit will remain anonymous.)

Yes, the pool was fenced, but the gate was never locked.

Christy Eubanks receives associate Degree in Applied Science/Drafting and Design Technology from LBWCC

Christy Eubanks received an Associate Degree in Applied Science/Drafting and Design Technology during the recent commencement exercises held on May 12, 2006 at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College. Christy graduated Summa Cum Laude with a grade-point average of 3.915.

While at LBWCC, Christy was a member of the Beta Eta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, National Technical Society, the National Dean's List, Who's Who Among American High School Seniors for the 2004-2005 and 2005-2006 academic years. She also received the Distinguished Freshman Honor Student Award.

Christy is employed with Utility Trailer Manufacturing of Enterprise, Ala., as a Drafting Technician in their Order Processing Department. Christy also designs house plans for local contractors as well as individuals and families seeking to build a new home. She is the daughter of Gerald and Rhonda Eubanks of Elba, Ala., and is a resident of Enterprise.



Christy Eubanks

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Grant is the son of Billy and Lana (Spirin) Chandler of Mt. Olive, Ala. He is the grandson of Bill and Muffie Chandler of Birmingham, Ala., and Janette Grantham Carr of Elba, Ala.

"The Snellgroves" to be at Mustard Seed Foundation this Sunday

Mustard Seed Fellowship Church will have regular church services Sunday, July 9th. Morning worship will begin at 10:30 a.m. with "The Snellgroves" ministering in song and Derek Snellgrove bringing the morning message. Sunday evening services will begin at 6:00 p.m. Mustard Seed Fellowship Church is located on Coffee County road 211 in the Victoria Community. For more information, directions or transportation call (334) 897-0585 or (334) 672-1301.

CHURCH NEWS

PASTOR'S CORNER Rev. Bobby R. Holladay Westside Baptist Church

Thank God for Truth and Freedom

This week we are celebrating the 230th birthday of our great nation. This freedom has come to us at a great price paid by our ancestors who have stood for truth and justice. Many have given their lives in battle because they believed so much in freedom.

The United States and our allies are in the midst of the war against the terrorist and evil of terrorism that threatens to destroy the great freedoms we enjoy. Whether we agree or disagree with our fight against terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq, we must support our troops in prayer. We must pray for the peoples of these nations that they will learn the truth of evil which controls the mind of too many in their country. We must pray that they will be set free from dictators who destroy their opportunities of success and freedom as individuals, families and nations.

Jesus said, "And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32). The truth here means Christianity. The doctrine of true Christianity will make you free, that is it will free you from the slavery of evil passions and corrupt tendencies. The condition of a non-Christian is that of a captive or a slave to sin. He is one who serves and obeys the dictates of an evil heart and the promptings of an evil nature. The effect of the gospel is to break this hard bondage to sin and to set the sinner free. Cowper said, "He is the freeman whom the truth makes free, and all are slaves beside."

Christianity brings us many freedoms. Here are three: (a) It brings us freedom from fear. The man who is a disciple of Christ never again has to walk alone. He walks for ever in the company of Jesus, and in that company fear is gone. (b) It brings freedom from self. Many a man fully recognizes that his greatest handicap is his own self. And he may in despair cry out: "I cannot change myself. I have tried, but it is impossible." But the power and presence of Jesus can re-create a man until he is altogether new. (c) It brings freedom from other people. There are many whose lives are dominated by the fear of what other people may think and say. H. G. Wells once said that the voice of our neighbors sounds louder in our ears than the voice of God. The disciple is the man who has ceased to be overly concerned about what people say, because he thinks so much of what God says.

The truth sets men free from the shadow of doubt and despair. Man no longer has to grasp and grope about to know the truth, whether it be the truth of God or of his own world. Jesus Christ has revealed the truth: the nature, the meaning, and the destiny of all things.

Thank God for truth and freedom!

Elba United Methodist Super Kids to present musical Sunday Evening, July 9th

The Elba United Methodist's Super Kids will be presenting a musical Sunday evening, July 9th at 6:00 p.m. Everybody is welcome.

on "I Am God's Project" this Sunday evening, July 9th at 6:00 p.m. Everybody is welcome.

for more information call John Chapel 334-393-2661.

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New Ebenezer Baptist Church will hold revival services July 16-19

New Ebenezer Baptist Church (Curtis Community) will hold revival services July 16-19, 2006. The guest speaker will be Rev. Chris Barrow. Services will begin Sunday evening, July 16, at 5:30 PM. Monday - Wednesday services will begin at 7:00 PM.

Homecoming & Revival

planned at Chestnut

Grove Methodist Church

Chestnut Grove Methodist Church will have their 2006 Homecoming and Revival services. Homecoming will be July 9, 2006 at 11:00 AM. The speaker will be Rev. Bobby Skipper. The Good News Quartet from Opp, Ala., will provide the special music. There will be dinner after the morning service.

Revival will be held July 10-12, 2006 at 7:00 PM nightly. On July 10, Rev. Jim Powell from Williams Chapel United Methodist Church will provide the message. On July 11, Rev. Calvin Faircloth from Light House Assembly of God will provide the message. On July 12, Rev. Clifford Matthews from Dorcas Baptist Church will provide the message. There will be special music each night.

Everyone is welcome to attend!

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Round & About With Eria 897-2006

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 23
The Lord is the shepherd of His people.

THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU: Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Mary L. Holley, Jodie Regefe, Homer C. Coleman, Joe Bailey, Marie Tillis, Edward Lindsey, Carolyn M. Lawrence, Sherrie Rogers

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: Grady and Brenda Brooks - July (Wedding Anniversary) - Larry and Louella Folmar - July 3 (Wedding Anniversary), Pete Daniels - July 6 (In Memory Of), Milton and Catyhaette Cross - July 6 (Wedding Anniversary), Tammy Rodgers - July 7 (In Memory Of), Joyce E. Belcher Johnson - July 7, Evelyn Y. Belcher Manning - July 7, Henry Rowe - July 9, Malik Shevon Kelley - July 9, Lydia Kelley - July 10

HOME COMING AND REVIVAL

Oak Grove Baptist Church in Elba, Ala., Rev. Nathaniel Fleming, pastor, will be having its Homecoming on Sunday, July 9, 2006 at 2:30 PM. The guest speaker will be Rev. W.L. Peterson, pastor of the Greater New Zion Baptist Church in Elba. Revival will be held July 10-14, 2006 at 7:00 PM nightly. The evangelist will be Rev. R.O. Calhoun, pastor of Jordan Grove Baptist Church in Albany, Ga.

THE ANNUAL SESSION OF THE MULBERRY MISSIONARY BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BAPTIST TRAINING UNION Congress is to be held at the Mulberry Education Building on Hwy. 84 West, in Elba, Ala., on Friday, July 14, 2006 and Saturday, July 15, 2006. The theme is "Save by Faith: Live by Faith, and the study text will be Luke 7:50 and Habakkuk 2:4. Officers will be: President - Deacon Willie C. Tillis, Vice President - Deacon A.Z. Stoudmire, Secretary - Sister Ollie Henderson, Corresponding Secretary - Sister Julia Glasco, Education Rally - Messenger, Youth Director - Sister

SPORTS

Views from....

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The long four-day weekend didn't make its way to the Mularz house as ball tournaments and work ate up chunks of every single day. I did manage to sleep in a little on two of the days and the girls also got to catch up on some sleep. However, the long holiday definitely wasn't a four day vacation.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** The All-Star season is still alive and well for many of the Elba teams as five teams have earned berths in District play. The Dixie Boys posted a 3-1 record at the sub-district baseball event to earn its way to the next level, while the Dixie Ponytails won their sub-district softball tournament and also moved on. The Dixie Pre-Majors baseball team and the Dixie Debs softball team were also competing in District Tournaments as of press time and both had claimed early wins, while the Dixie Youth All-Stars will host the District next weekend and are ready to play. The Dixie Minor All-Stars, Dixie Angels All-Stars and Dixie Belles All-Stars also posted wins in their tournaments before being ousted. So, so far it has been a very good All-Star season for the Elba leagues. Great job!

*** Changes in the coaching staff at Elba High have been happening almost on a daily basis, but now that the calendar has reached July it appears the staff is set and ready to get going. In football, Rudy Free and Mickey Jacobs have joined as assistant coaches, while Mike Bucklew will take over the helm in baseball. Rudy Free will take over the head coaching job in softball and Bruce Peacock has been hired to replace long-time Lady Tiger head coach Leroy Carney. Most years the fans need a program to identify the players, but this upcoming season an extra page may have to be added so the fans will know the new coaches.

*** One of the newest fads to hit the area is tournament play for coach-pitch baseball players. Elba has two teams that hit the road almost every weekend, and last weekend one of the teams sponsored a tournament up at Hawkins Williams that filled the park with players and fans. I saw some coach-pitch tournaments years ago in North Alabama and was amazed at the crowds that attended the events, and it looks like the tournament trail is now here to stay all across the state.

*** I read where a columnist in a daily newspaper had written the Atlanta Braves off as dead, and even went so far as to write which players on the current roster should be dumped. I agreed with some of the moves, but had to disagree on dumping Chipper Jones and keeping Andruw Jones. Chipper hasn't made it back from a rash of injuries and has been a disappointment, but Andruw's career is heading downward and since he makes over 10 percent of the total payroll, cut him and his salary. It may very well be years before the Braves are back on top. So, maybe it is time for the "tomahawk chop" to chop a few players.

*** In closing.... I was at the Dixie Boys Tournament last week and had a fun time listening to some Dads that had played football at Elba High telling stories about games and coaches. The usual stories about Coach Wood dominated the conversation, while the names of Coach John Frank Hudson and players Eddie Coleman, Don Horstner and many others helped make the long nights seem a little shorter. I guess memories last forever.



Ivy Sanders spotted this 6lb bass underneath the peer at her grandparents pond in Victoria. After one month of a little sweat and a lot of patience, she finally caught him. She is the daughter of Patrick and Tabitha Sanders.

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THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Compliments of

ELBA ROTARY CLUB

Claim three straight wins

Elba All-Stars win sub-district Ponytail title

The Elba All-Stars competed in the District 6, Sub-District 1 Softball Tournament last weekend and Opp rolled to three straight wins to claim the tournament championship.

"Our girls worked hard in practice to get ready for the tournament and played well," said Coach Kevin Matthews. "This is a great group of girls and they represented Elba and our softball league well with their actions both on and off the field."

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

ELBA 10 OPP 0

Bethany Wilson pitched four innings of scoreless ball and her teammates had few problems finding their way to the plate as the Elba All-Stars rolled to a 10-0 win over the Opp All-Stars.

Elba scored early and often to take a 7-0 second-inning advantage and never looked back in posting the opening round win. Morgan Matthews and Paige Gibson scored 2 runs each to lead Elba, while Bethany Wilson, Kelli Behrens, Kayla Bagwell, Jessie Brunon, Jacqueta Whitfield and Brianna Jackson all scored one run.

ELBA 4 GENEVA 2

Lindsey Carney tossed a no-

hitter and struck out 18 batters to lead the Elba All-Stars to a 4-2 win over the Geneva All-Stars.

Lindsey Carney and Kayla Bagwell both had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba, while Sarah Bane and Morgan

Matthews also scored 1 run, apiece.

ELBA 6 ENTERPRISE 2

The Elba All-Stars wrapped up the tournament with a 6-2 win over the Enterprise All-Stars.

Lindsey Carney had 2 triples and scored 2 runs to lead Elba, while Molly McGuire scored 2 runs and Bethany Wilson and Sarah Bane both scored once.

Bethany Wilson pitched all six innings to get the win on the pitching rubber.

Following are highlights of the four games:

ELBA 6 GREENVILLE 2

The Elba All-Stars pulled ahead early and then pulled away late to defeat the Greenville All-Stars 6-2, in opening round action.

Toshamba Jones singled and later scored on an RBI single in the seventh, but it was too little, too late, as Elba held on for the 6-2 win. Toshamba Jones had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Heather Reeves and Keri Hobbs both added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Shea Brantley and Melanie Mularz both had 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Haley Stinson and Ashley Carpenter both added 1 hit. Brandy Caldwell got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched seven innings and allowed two runs on one hit, with six strike-outs.

ANDALUSIA 3 ELBA 1

The Elba All-Stars fell behind early and never caught up in a 3-1 loss to the Andalusia All-Stars. Andalusia combined a hit batter with a two-out single to take a 1-0 lead in the first inning, then used three hits and a hit batter to pull out to a 3-0 lead in the fourth. Elba scored in the fifth when Valarie Hutcherson singled, stole second and third and raced home on an error. However, it was the only run Elba would score as the All-Stars dropped the 3-1 decision. Valarie Hutcherson had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Melanie Mularz added a triple. Shea Brantley pitched six innings for Elba and allowed three runs on four hits, with 4 strike-outs.

ELBA 3 ANDALUSIA 1

The Elba All-Stars pulled ahead early and then pulled away late to defeat the Andalusia All-Stars 3-1, in opening round action.

Toshamba Jones singled and later scored on an RBI single in the seventh, but it was too little, too late, as Elba held on for the 3-1 win. Toshamba Jones had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Heather Reeves and Keri Hobbs both added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Shea Brantley and Melanie Mularz both had 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Haley Stinson and Ashley Carpenter both added 1 hit. Brandy Caldwell got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched seven innings and allowed two runs on one hit, with six strike-outs.

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Toshamba Jones singled and later scored on an RBI single in the seventh, but it was too little, too late, as Elba held on for the 3-1 win. Toshamba Jones had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Heather Reeves and Keri Hobbs both added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Shea Brantley and Melanie Mularz both had 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Haley Stinson and Ashley Carpenter both added 1 hit. Brandy Caldwell got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched seven innings and allowed two runs on one hit, with six strike-outs.

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ELBA DIXIE PONYTAILS ALL-STARS... were all smiles last week after winning the sub-district tournament, in Opp. At press time the All-Stars were 1-1 in action at the Dixie Softball District Tournament, in Andalusia.

Mike Capps photo

hitter and struck out 18 batters to lead the Elba All-Stars to a 4-2 win over the Geneva All-Stars.

Lindsey Carney and Kayla Bagwell both had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba, while Sarah Bane and Morgan

Matthews also scored 1 run, apiece.

ELBA 6 ENTERPRISE 2

The Elba All-Stars wrapped up the tournament with a 6-2 win over the Enterprise All-Stars.

Lindsey Carney had 2 triples and scored 2 runs to lead Elba, while Molly McGuire scored 2 runs and Bethany Wilson and Sarah Bane both scored once.

Bethany Wilson pitched all six innings to get the win on the pitching rubber.

Following are highlights of the four games:

ELBA 6 GREENVILLE 2

The Elba All-Stars pulled ahead early and then pulled away late to defeat the Greenville All-Stars 6-2, in opening round action.

Toshamba Jones singled and later scored on an RBI single in the seventh, but it was too little, too late, as Elba held on for the 6-2 win. Toshamba Jones had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Heather Reeves and Keri Hobbs both added 2 hits and scored 1 run. Shea Brantley and Melanie Mularz both had 1 hit and scored 1 run, and Haley Stinson and Ashley Carpenter both added 1 hit. Brandy Caldwell got the win on the pitching rubber as she pitched seven innings and allowed two runs on one hit, with six strike-outs.

ANDALUSIA 3 ELBA 1

The Elba All-Stars fell behind early and never caught up in a 3-1 loss to the Andalusia All-Stars. Andalusia combined a hit batter with a two-out single to take a 1-0 lead in the first inning, then used three hits and a hit batter to pull out to a 3-0 lead in the fourth. Elba scored in the fifth when Valarie Hutcherson singled, stole second and third and raced home on an error. However, it was the only run Elba would score as the All-Stars dropped the 3-1 decision. Valarie Hutcherson had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Melanie Mularz added a triple. Shea Brantley pitched six innings for Elba and allowed three runs on four hits, with 4 strike-outs.

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ELBA 3 ANDALUSIA 1

The Elba All-Stars pulled ahead early and then pulled away

A bit of Elba history revealed in old Elba Clippers

Researched and slowly hand copied from microfilm by Sheila (Hornaby) White, this article was reprinted in 1903 from one of the very first editions of The Elba Clipper, first printed in 1897.

THE ELBA CLIPPER June 11, 1903

The oxen were unhitched and the wagon was rolled on the flat by hand. The impact of the front wheels of the wagon rolling on the flat broke the tie chain and the flat started across the river with only the front wheels on it. For a moment it looked as though the wagon and load would drop in the river, (very deep there) but the wagon had acquired sufficient momentum for the rear wheels to jump aboard just as the shore end of the flat slid off the first portion of the sloping bank.

The building secured for the print shop was an old residence in the North Western part of the town. There the material was set up. That was undoubtedly the hottest printing office on earth. Later in the summer the force (two partners) working in very dishabille costumes, and one was considerably dismayed by the visit of a ladies aid society committee; the additional raiment of the force being not easily accessible (certain of charity drawn here.)

On June 17, 1897, appeared Volume 1, No. 1 of THE ELBA CLIPPER. Powell and Carmichael publishers, editors, and printers. In it was the customary salutatory which was as startlingly original as salutatory generally are. It contained the usual statements, something like the following:

1. A purpose to publish an up-to-date journal (not newspaper).
2. That the editors and proprietors had a deep seated confidence in the town of Elba and its future and had come to grow up with it.
3. That the paper would be a Democratic sheet but would exhibit great independence of thought, and would save the country in many improved ways.
4. Desire and expectation to merit the confidence and support of the best people (especially the support).
5. An eloquent (though modest) description of the abilities of the editors, and an e'out wheels on it. For a moment it looked as though

In April 1897, Elba was a town of prospects. It was expected that a contract would soon be let for building a railroad from a point near Newton to the Plant System (now A.C.L.) to Elba. Elba was receiving a good deal of publicity on this account (and because A.J. Smith and the lamented D.C. Collins had full use of their tongues).

During this month, two young men came to Elba prospecting, with a view of establishing a newspaper. One of them was A.R. Powell of Andalusia, who had formerly owned and edited the Covington Times. He came to Elba early in April 1897, and decided to locate here, secured an option on two printing plants located here, and went back to Andalusia to await developments. The other young man was M.S. Carmichael, who had been teaching and whose sole experience in journalism was a little desultory, unpaid for work on a weekly, a little work as a correspondent, and a year's experience as editor of a college paper. Feeling that he could make a great editor of even a New York daily, he reached Elba about the middle of April, was pleased with the field, and learned that the other man (Mr. P.) was thinking of coming to Elba. He returned to Ozark and he and Mr. P. engaged in correspondence and formed a partnership without having ever seen each other.

The newly formed partnership bought an old outfit in Ozark on credit with long time payments and moved it across the country to Elba, reaching Elba with it on June 3, 1897. One load of the printing material was on a wagon drawn by six oxen, the load being upwards of 7,000 pounds. The bridges across the river had been washed down several months before, and there was a ferry near Judge Rushing's residence. A crowd gathered to see the heavily loaded ox wagon sink the flat expression of the confidence they had in themselves. Each of the editors had written a salutatory (feeling that he was best fitted to do so) and it was a vexed question as to which should be published. It was finally settled by publishing part of each. The paper came out six columns wide, with only one or two paid advertisements in it. There was an account of the letting and building of the railroad to Elba and a eulogy of the work of Hon. D.C. Collins and associates in securing the road for Elba.

In those days Elba enjoyed with many other small towns the reputation of being a newspaper grave yard. During the first few months it was not much trouble to get credit subscribers, but cash subscribers were few in number. Mr. J.L. Larkins handed us a dollar, and said, if you fellows run a month or two and quit and I lose most of my dollar as I have several others, I'll hunt you up and make you regret it.

Clever J.H. McLendon of Clintonville, now of Enterprise, gave us a dollar on June 2, over two weeks before the first issue came out and is our oldest subscriber. The gross proceeds of the business in those days was not large.

In the fall of the year 1897 THE CLIPPER moved into its present home, a wood building 25 X 50 feet (since enlarged) built expressly for it. In the fall of the year the services of Mr. J.B. Mayhew, a capable printer, who has been with the office ever since, were secured. From then till the spring of 1899, the business managed to keep out of the bankrupt court.

During all this time the main topic of interest with THE CLIPPER and the people of Elba was where the town would be located. To secure the building of the railroad, the city of Elba and Coffee County had subscribed liberally to a bonus to be given the railroad and had organized a land company under the name of the Elba Improvement Company. The company owned a large tract of land west of the town. The Plant Investment Company's stock was given or sold to Col. S.G. McLendon, an employee of the Plant System and the president of the S.W.A. branch of the railroad. As soon as the contract was let for building the railroad, Mr. Lee McLendon came to Elba to manage the Elba Improvement Company and there ensued a state of affairs that well nigh killed any prospects of a town at Elba.

Practically all the real estate in the town was owned by people who were able to hold it. Very little was for sale at any price. A large part was owned by non-residents and they, with the resident owners, had the utmost scorn for Mr. Lee McLendon's efforts to locate the business buildings in West Elba, and judging from their actions seemed to think that strangers would come in and build fine brick buildings in the air (supported by balloons) for while they knew the town would soon be a city they had no lots to sell.

at figures low enough to appear reasonable to an outside who was told by the Elba Improvement Company officials that in a few weeks Mr. Plant would begin building a million dollar hotel in West Elba. The Elba Improvement Company were equally self confident, and Mr. Lee McLendon was not the man for the position he held. It was his idea to wait till the railroad was finished and then begin to sell his lots and begin to build his town, a fatal mistake.

If Mr. Ben McLendon had been in charge of the Elba Improvement Company then, things would have been different.

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campaign fund. While off duty in the rock and palmetto wilderness, THE CLIPPER soldier wrote much fact and fiction from the seat of war to THE CLIPPER. He was with several thousand other Alabama soldiers very strenuous in his efforts not to aid General Leonard Wood and Col. A.A. Wiley in pacifying and establishing good government in Cuba, and succeeded in getting back to Coffee County, where he now advocates high pensions, provided he is on the list.

In the early fall of 1898 the railroad was completed to Elba and the Elba Improvement Company built a brick store and a brick store in West Elba and placed their lots of sale, Mr. Ben McLendon assuming control about this time. He was too late in coming to Elba; if he had come a few months sooner he would have made West Elba the business center of town. He was a great mixer, a great talker, a great promoter, and his nervous disposition made him want to do things on the spot, while his brother, Lee, was dignified, deliberative and procrastination — traits that would ruin any promoter or real estate boomer.

After building the brick store and ware house and getting a mercantile firm to occupy them, rent free, nothing was done by the Elba Improvement Company except to begin the sale of residence lots which has covered West Elba and several small mercantile firms moved into old Elba, but still neither side had any marked advantage.

About this time, Mr. Ben McLendon announced that the work on a large brick hotel would begin soon and he had brick scattered over a large tract of ground, had this been done sooner it would have had much weight, as it looked reasonable that Mr. Plant or any other capitalists would like to build a tourist hotel as such a delightful place as Elba; but the fact that the Elba Improvement Company was nearly two years

old and had done very little of the many big things it was to have done made the public want to see some mortar between the brick before believing a large hotel would be built. All this time THE CLIPPER was blowing about Elba's greatness and receiving tons of advice as to the place, a newspaper should adopt in building a gas town.

In January, 1899, the location of the business portion of Elba was settled by Wright, Henderson and Company, buying lots and beginning the erection of brick stores and a large sale stable. The name of Math Wright had magic in it; he was the best merchant in South Alabama, he had a remarkable reputation for fair dealing and honesty, he was public spirited and energetic, and was a great harmonizer and leader. To him belongs much of the credit of Elba's great growth in 1899.

That year many brick stores were built, artesian water was discovered here, and the town issued bonds to build a magnificent school building which was completed the next year. THE CLIPPER enlarged to eight pages and purchased some new material.

In 1899 Capt. A.J. Smith came to Elba to manage Col. J.W. Comer's property, and under his supervision were built the splendid mill and gin on Beaver Dam creek and many elegant homes. Capt. Smith was a town builder, and had he owned the property he managed he would have no doubt built the cotton mill he labored so faithfully for. Co. Comer's water power site was to the forefoot and all the efforts at developing Elba's water power for several years were in connection with it. Col. Comer at all times said he wanted it developed, and the citizens of Elba always subscribed to the schemes liberally, but somehow there was never a proper understanding between Col. Comer and the people of Elba, and the schemes went where the whangdoodle resides and mourns, etc., and many hundred columns of factory blowing in THE CLIPPER.

In the fall of 1899 THE CLIPPER began to work up its first distribution. It came on February 22, 1900 and was a great occasion. The paper's circulation grew into the thousands and the proprietors wanted to see how rich it had not been for the costly present, the agents commissions and the cost of white paper which amounted to about the same amount as the receipts. The large list of subscribers necessitated a better method of printing, and an addition was built to the office and a kerosene engine installed in May, 1900. The large Campbell press was overhauled and moved to the new part of the building and placed on a cement foundation, and the engine was geared so as to run it and the job presses.

In March 1901, the second and last drawing was conducted and a still larger list of subscribers was secured. These newspaper drawings are the most fascinating affairs imaginable. The excitement, the opportunity to give big present and grow eloquent in bragging about them, the work and worry, thrill a man as nothing else in newspaper work can, and while the day for making money on them passes before we began, we do not regret having run them.

In the Spring of 1902 the citizens of Elba organized the Elba Power Company and began the building of a dam across Pea River at the best dam site on the stream. This summer the dam will be completed. The town will be lighted and enough electric power generated to run the machinery of many factories. During the past twelve months many good things have come to Elba, a large lumber plant, a large veneering factory, a new court house, improved street work, and it has been THE CLIPPER's good fortune not to have starved, but to be here to chronicle these pleasing events.

In the next few months THE CLIPPER will publish accounts of still greater progress, of good things just coming over the horizon. THE CLIPPER is glad it is in good old Coffee County, and hopes to be here many more years.

This Farmall tractor is the one currently being restored by Chip Westbrook. When he began working on the A, Westbrook had to build it from pieces of two old A models. Now, the mechanical work is complete, and he said the A is ready for body work and painting.

The smallest tractor in the set is the Farmall Cub - a yellow tractor, Westbrook said he does

COMMUNITY NEWS

FARMALL

said the tractor had been kept in a barn and was in really good shape when he bought it from the Lee family.

"I've been seeing that tractor since I was a little boy and wanted it ever since," Westbrook said. "I'm so proud he (Lee) decided to sell it to me."

He said he completed the restoration work to the H in his barn, and he has entered it into a few parades already for show.

Westbrook said he also has the planters, plows and everything that goes with the H tractor.

He currently is working to restore the Farmall A in his collection. He created this tractor from pieces of two old A models. Now, the mechanical work is complete, and he said the A is ready for body work and painting.

The smallest tractor in the set is the Farmall Cub - a yellow tractor, Westbrook said he does

plan on repainting this tractor, but for now, his wife, Linda, uses it to cut the grass. He said she loves using the Cub for grass cutting.

When asked if the Cub would be painted red, Westbrook said no.

"It's a little girl tractor, so, it has to be yellow," he jokingly said. Jokes aside, though, he said the original color for the Cub was yellow, and he likes to restore his tractors as original as possible.

Westbrook said he does have a Farmall C, but it currently does not run. He said when he begins restoring this tractor, he most likely will strip it down to the motor and rebuild from there.

The tractors are collector items for Westbrook, but he said he does try to find jobs for his tractors. They do not just sit in the barn.

"I hope to have three tractors ready by October to enter in the Homecoming parade," he said.

While Westbrook insists he they'll be able to save even more.

Borrowers of Stafford and PLUS Loans from the Alabama College Loan Program will receive a 5 percent reduction to the original loan principal after making their first 30 monthly, on-time payments. They'll also qualify for a 0.25 percent interest rate reduction if their payments are taken directly out of their bank accounts.

For more information about this money-saving program, visit www.alstudentaid.com; write the Alabama Student Loan program, 100 North Union Street, Suite 308, Montgomery, AL 36104-3761, or call 334-265-9720, toll free (800) 721-9720.

When students and parents begin repaying their loans, they'll be able to save even more.

The Famous Cooks Cooking Club is proud to announce that over \$3000 in cash and prizes will be awarded in the annual 2006 Old Family Recipe Contest.

Residents from the Elba area are welcome to win their share of the prizes. The deadline for entry is July 30th. The contest is open to all regardless of age and entry is free. We encourage amateur cooks to participate as well.

To enter, send one recipe handwritten or typed along with the category type (dessert, holiday, snack, etc.).

All entries must include the recipe name as well as the cook's name and address on the back. Recipes should be sent to: Famous Cooks Cooking Club, P.O. Box 26, Pittsburg, KS 66762.

Entries must be postmarked by July 30, 2006. To submit directly online visit the website at www.famouscooking.com.

The Famous Cooks Cooking Club is an organization dedicated to bringing together amateur cooks from around the world for fun and fellowship. Membership in the club is not necessary to participate.

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(Continued from Page One)



Coffee County resident Chip Westbrook with four tractors in his Farmall collection. The tractors shown above are (from left): the Farmall Cub, the Farmall A, the Farmall H and the Farmall M. These four tractors are all in running order, but the H is the only one completely restored at this time. Westbrook also has the Farmall C for his collection, but it does not run at the time. He said he is looking for the Farmall B, and the acquisition of that particular model will complete his desired set.

Westbrook said he also has the planters, plows and everything that goes with the H tractor.

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Merchants statewide invited to learn how to prepare for the August 'back-to-school' sales tax holiday

The Alabama Department of Revenue and the Alabama Retail Association in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama have organized a series of meetings throughout the state during the month of July to explain to businesses how the back-to-school sales tax holiday scheduled for Aug. 4-6 will work.

Any business that sells school supplies, books, clothing or computers and computer equipment would benefit from the information shared at these one-hour seminars. Any interested party is welcome.

After a brief introduction from a representative from the Alabama Retail Association, which championed the legislation that led to the sales tax holiday, a representative of the

Alabama Department of Revenue will explain the regulations that will apply during this three-day sales tax holiday. There will be plenty of time for questions from the audience.

The first observance of the back-to-school sales tax holiday in Alabama begins at 12:01 a.m. Friday, Aug. 4, and ends at midnight Sunday, Aug. 6th. It is important that Alabama businesses are well informed and prepared to handle this holiday, which should increase sales at their businesses. Retailers could even see double-digit increases from previous year sales as has been seen in other states with similar holidays.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SALES TAX SEMINARS:
• TROY - 10-11 a.m. July 18th
• LOCATION TBA



Ricky Snellgrove, the Republican candidate for State Representative District 91, and his wife, June, made a \$500 contribution to the Elba Community Playground project Tuesday evening, June 29, during "Panic for the Park" event. They are shown above with Laurie Chapman (center), general coordinator for the Elba Community Playground project.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Managing water restrictions in the home landscape

by Amy Winstead
Regional Extension Agent,
Alabama Cooperative
Extension System

Outdoor water restrictions often require homeowners to innovatively manage their lawn and garden watering schedules. Fortunately there are several things homeowners can do to make the best use of their water supply even during the hottest and driest days of summer. Begin by checking all water

hoses, sprinkler systems, and irrigation systems to make sure they are performing at their peak efficiency. Repair any leaks and if necessary replace worn fittings and hoses.

Check mulch around beds and shrubbery to ensure an adequate layer is present. Mulch is excellent for holding in moisture, preventing evaporation, and regulating soil temperature. Extend mulch far enough out from plants to cover underground root systems.

Water when plants are just beginning to wilt and resist shallow watering as this only produces shallow root systems. By watering less frequently but for longer periods of time, you will promote deep, healthy root systems that can withstand dry periods much easier.

Water so that plants and/or lawn receive one to one-and-a-half inches of water per week (take into account rainfall). This may be done in split applications of 1/2 to 3/4 inches twice a week or one deep watering once a week. To determine how long it takes your sprinkler system to output one inch of water, place several shallow, flat-sided pans on the ground to catch water while irrigating and determine the time it takes to collect one inch of water.

Water your plants and lawn during the early morning hours.

between 4 AM and 10 AM to maximize water uptake. When applying water to beds or gardens, direct water applications to plant roots rather than an over-the-top approach. Wetting the foliage not only encourages disease but may also lessen the amount of water your plant roots receive due to evaporation.

Drip irrigation and/or soaker hoses are efficient at directing water towards the root system and will reduce water use by up to 50% compared to traditional sprinklers.

Finally, consider planting drought resistant plants suited for South Alabama. A list of such plants as well as additional information on water conservation can be obtained from the Coffee County Extension office at (334) 894-5596.



Rep. Terry Spicer and his wife, Ceina, made a \$500 contribution to the Elba Community Playground project Thursday evening, June 29, during the "Picnic for the Park" event on behalf of their two sons, Hayes and J. Cole. Rep. Spicer and J. Cole are shown presenting the check to Laurie Chapman, general coordinator for the Elba Community Playground project.

Red Cross announces disaster preparation classes to be conducted in July in Enterprise

The Coffee County American Red Cross will hold the following Disaster preparation classes:

Enterprise - Ozark Community College
• Shelter Operations July 11, 2006, 6-9 p.m.
• Shelter Operations July 13, 2006, 1-4 p.m.
Enterprise - First United Methodist Church
• Disaster Team Training Saturday July 15, 2006, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The first two Shelter Operations will be held at the EOCC (room 204) July 11 and July 13. This is one class taught at two different times to make it more valuable to volunteers. The second class is Disaster Action team training at the First United Methodist Church Old

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8260P • 2003 EDIE BAUER EXPEDITION Priced Right	8312P • 2005 MALIBU LS AT-6 Great Buy - 2 to choose From - Under Warranty	8261P1 • 2003 FORD F-250 KING RANCH Super Crew - 4 X 4 - Under Warranty - Loaded	8305P • 2006 CHEVROLET IMPALA LT Under Warranty

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Volume 110, Number 5

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 13, 2006

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba City Council votes to approve agreement with Coffee County EMA

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council met Monday evening with Mayor Pro Tem Ronnie Hammond presiding in the absence of Mayor James Grimes. Grimes was attending an out of town municipal government meeting.

Council members were unanimous in approving a Mutual Aid Agreement with Coffee County Emergency Management Agency director John Tallas.

Tallas said Elba was the first governing body in the county he has approached, but he will be talking with the City of Enterprise and then with the Coffee County Commission.

Director Tallas explained to council members that this agreement was not binding on the city if the police or other employees were unable to leave their normally assigned duties at the time of others being in need of help. He added this agreement was requested by FEMA and would be asked for during initial planning for disaster assistance.

The Council members went into executive session to discuss a price they were willing to pay for some property to be sold at bid on Thursday, July 13. The 3.7 acres of land adjoins the Legion Field ball park.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham said the auctioneer had said they expected the land to bring at least \$25,000 at auction, and they would sell it to Elba for that price. Council members felt that was higher than they wished to pay and opted to take their chances at the public auction.

After several minutes of discussion in the executive session, the council reconvened for the open meeting.

Monthly bills totaling \$19,228.50 were approved for payment. Hammond pointed out several of the higher bills and asked if there were any questions. Being no questions, he called for a motion and the vote.

Hammond also briefly reviewed the monthly financial statement for council members.

Grantham told council members that the garbage trucks will not be picking up garbage that is in privately owned containers. He explained that these are not adaptable to the trucks' emptying arms plus some homeowners would expect the city to pay for damaged privately owned containers.

He added that if one official container is not suitable for a household, additional containers are available at \$8 per month.

One local race on ballot for Republican Primary Run-off Election set for July 18th

Those desiring to vote Republican will take to the polls next Tuesday, July 18, as the Republican Primary Run-off Election will be held.

In Coffee County, only one local race will be decided. Voters will choose the Republican nominee for Coffee County Sheriff.

The winner, either Ricky Barnes or Dave Sutton, will face the Democratic nominee, Lance Tindol, in November's General Election for Sheriff. Tindol received his nomination during June's Primary Election beating incumbent Ben Moates.

Tuesday's run-off election also will feature five statewide races. All are vying for the

Republican Party nomination to November's General Election.

The Lieutenant Governor's race is between Luther Strange and George Wallace Jr.

The Court of Civil Appeals Judge, Place No. 3 is between Terri Willingham Thomas and Phillip Wood.

The Court of Criminal Appeals Judge, Place No. 3 is between Clay Crenshaw and Sam Welch.

The State Auditor race is between Wes Allen and S. Samantha "Sam" Shaw.

The Public Service Commission, Place No. 2 race is between John Amari and Perry Hooper Jr.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m.

During New Brockton Town Council meeting

Update reports given on various projects

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council met Monday evening, July 10, and several update reports were provided regarding various projects.

Mayor Charles Cole told council members the town received notification that something must be done with the grant for the downtown sidewalk project before Dec. 15th of this year or the town will have to forfeit the grant. He said the major holdup with the project has been the cost. The project has been bid a couple of times and the cost has been too high each time. However, Cole said Monday evening that he is confident the town can get something started on the project before Dec. 15th.

The mayor also reported Monday evening that progress with the Mayberry USA project is on hold right now. He said the work crews have moved to another site for the time being because of a holdup with some of the paperwork for the Mayberry project.

Progress is being made with the demolition grant for structures identified as public nuisances within the town as Mayor Cole reported the project currently is being advertised for bids in two local papers.

"Once this demolition grant takes care of these houses, we're going to get on the abandoned cars," said Cole.

This all is part of the town's attempt to clean up and beautify the town of New Brockton, and Cole said abandoned cars will be addressed just as soon as the structure demolition project is completed. By making this announcement, he said hopefully those with abandoned cars

will go ahead and do something with them before the town has to address the problem.

While discussing the demolition grant, council member Jeff White reminded citizens who own property identified for demolition of the importance of signing the appropriate paperwork. He said the release paperwork must be signed before the project can move forward. By participating in the grant project, there will be no cost to the owner for demolition and cleanup.

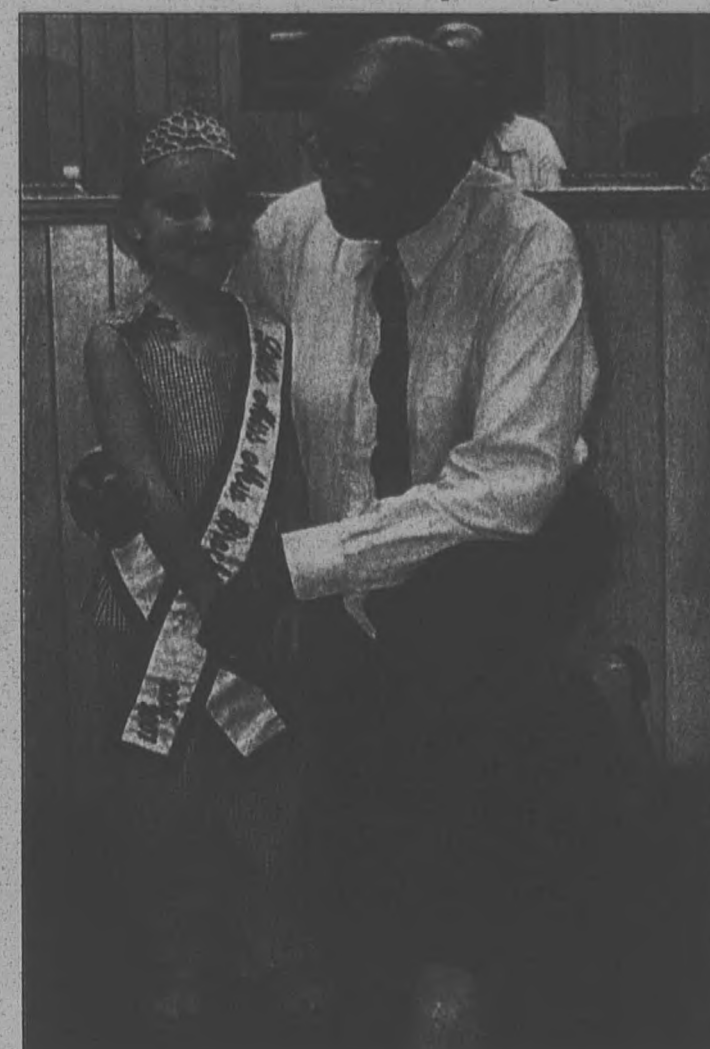
In providing his monthly report to council members, Police Chief Dale Grimes said 101 traffic citations were issued during the month of June including: two for driving under the influence, 40 for speeding, five for no driver's license, three for a revoked driver's license, five for a suspended driver's license, three for an expired tag, one for a switched tag, one for violation of the seat belt law and 41 for violation of the insurance law.

Grimes said many of the citations were the result of the "Click It or Ticket" campaign the department has been involved with since May. He said this campaign will continue through September, and additional checkpoints will be held during this time.

Chief Grimes also asked council members to approve a motion allowing him to attend a conference in August required for his certification. The cost will be \$175, and council members unanimously voted to allow him to attend.

In other business, the council members:

- Passed a resolution for a 90-day bank loan to cover operating expenses. Mayor Cole said this resolution was a "just in case"



Little Miss New Brockton Annsley Padgett attended Monday evening's New Brockton Town Council meeting. She updated council members on various events she has been representing the town at since becoming Little Miss New Brockton. Padgett will compete in the Little Miss National Peanut Festival pageant in October. She is shown above with Mayor Charles Cole.

formality and hopefully the town would not have to borrow any money.

- Approved a motion to pay the monthly bills totaling \$25,504.37. This included \$23,213.74 prepaid and \$2,290.63 to be paid.
- Approved a motion allowing

town clerk Annette Williams attend a clerk's meeting for training. The motion also called for the town to pay the actual expense for this request.

- Approved a motion to purchase an ad in the Gamecock Program at \$125 splitting the cost with the water board.

During Coffee County Commission meeting

Maintenance supervisor reports melting of sprinkler heads at jail

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission conducted a very quick meeting Monday morning, July 10, as the group met for the regular bimonthly meeting.

County resident Dr. Rex Mixson was again on the meeting's agenda to address commissioners regarding emergency medical response to his area of the county. During the June 26th commission meeting, he expressed a deep concern regarding response time by emergency medical service providers to his area of the county.

Mixson, a resident of County Road 143, said the people in his community are very concerned about emergency medical response because of the amount of time it takes for the provider from Elba to get to that part of the county. While he indicated having full confidence in the provider from Elba, he said the concern is simply the amount of time it takes to get from Elba.

"I want to thank you dear people," Mixson said during Monday's meeting. "I know you're working on it (the

response issue)."

After Mixson completed his remarks, basically thanking everyone involved for their attention to the matter, Commissioner J.L. Weeks asked the county administrator Wilson Mobley to address the issue.

Mobley said he spoke with Charles Webb, the county's E-911 director, following the June 26th meeting. He said Webb indicated that Enterprise Rescue Squad had agreed to look at doing some test runs to the area to see if it will be able to cover

that area of the county with a faster response time.

County maintenance supervisor Phil Rugg reported to commissioners Monday morning a problem from the weekend at the jail. He said inmates melted a couple of sprinkler heads causing some water damage in a portion of the jail.

On Saturday night, Rugg said the inmates melted the sprinkler head which in turn caused some flooding to a portion of the jail. Then, on Sunday, he said the same group of inmates in the

same cell melted the head again.

He said he feels it was a case of inmates having nothing more to do with their time but sit around and think of ways to disrupt.

Commission chairman Bernest Brooks said these type problems most likely happen at other jails as well, and the county needs strong enforcement there to encourage inmates not to cause such problems.

The next meeting of the Coffee County Commission will be Monday, July 24, at 9 a.m.

County BOE votes to adopt new salary schedule

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education met Thursday evening, July 6, for the regular monthly meeting and moved quickly through the agenda.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram provided board members with the monthly financial statement for the system, and she said she is pleased with it. Even with ongoing building projects, she said the system is doing what needs to be done.

Board members voted

Thursday evening to adopt the proposed salary schedule for the upcoming school year. Dr. Ingram presented members with a draft of the proposed schedule during a special meeting held Wednesday, June 28, for review.

Ingram noted the salary schedule includes a five percent pay increase approved by the state legislature for educators.

A motion to accept Dr. Ingram's recommendation to adopt the new salary schedule was approved by an unanimous vote from board members.

The only other matter voted on by board members during the meeting included the approval of a recommendation from Ingram regarding personnel matters. After board members approved the personnel recommendations, Ingram said the school system hired 28 new people for the upcoming year.

Personnel matters approved during last Thursday's meeting included:

- Accept the resignation of Randy Grant as physical education teacher at Zion Chapel

School.

- Employ Mike Robinson as a K-12 physical education teacher/driver education teacher at Zion Chapel School.

- Employ Mike Robinson as a coach at Zion Chapel School.

- Employ Jacob Raspberry as band director at Zion Chapel School.

- Employ Kimberly Blevins as a social studies teacher at Zion Chapel School.

Support

- Employ Amy Bedsole as secretary at New Brockton Elementary School.

Before adjourning the board discussed holding an open house and ribbon cutting for the recently completed renovation project at New Brockton High School. They tentatively decided on Thursday evening, Aug. 3, for the event. This also will be the same night for the next regular scheduled board meeting.

Finally, Dr. Ingram noted the summer break is nearing an end as students are scheduled to return to school Monday, Aug. 7, for the start of the 2006-07 school term.

Area Happenings

2006 ANNUAL MEETING
The Elba Community School System will hold its annual meeting on Thursday, July 13, at 8 p.m. at the Elba Community School System. All members are encouraged to attend.

ELBA COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND
The Elba Community Playground project is currently in progress. The project is a partnership between the Elba City Council and the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

EARLY MORNING FIRE DAMAGES HOME...
The New Brockton Fire Department responded Monday morning, July 10, to a house fire at 714 Byrd Mill Road just prior to 7:30 a.m. Shortly after 8 a.m., New Brockton called for mutual aid assistance from the Elba Fire Department which also responded to the scene. Firefighters worked to extinguish the blaze and mostly contained it to the inside of the home. However, the fire did cause extensive damage to the inside contents.